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THE ANNUAL

# AUDITORS' REPORT

OF THE

# TOWN OF LANDAFF,

FOR THE

Year Ending March 1, 1879.



WOODSVILLE, N. H.:  
PRINGLE & SCOTT, PRINTERS.  
1879.

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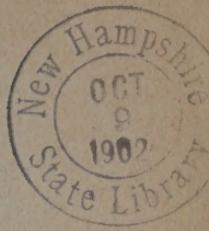
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# AUDITORS' REPORT.

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## RECEIPTS INTO THE TREASURY.

Balance in Treasury, March 1, 1878,	\$872 76
Amount of town tax bill,	4,939 55
"    " school-house tax, district No. 1,	57 79
"    " school-house tax, district No. 2,	615 95
"    " school-house tax, district No. 4,	20 74
Railroad tax,	29 18
Savings Bank tax,	257 60
Literary fund,	47 73
Eastman and Gordon note,	1,018 00
Eastman and Gordon note interest,	10 00
Town of Easton, share of school fund,	355 13
Town of Easton, share of Savings Bank tax,	
Literary fund of '77 and interest on local school fund,	85 06
Balance due on settlement with Easton,	79 90
County of Grafton,	263 04
M. J. Noyes, highway tax,	5 00
	<hr/>
	\$8,657 43

## EXPENDITURES.

Bonds and coupons due August 1, 1878,	\$2,473 53
State tax,	512 00
County tax,	705 31
Easton's share of public school fund,	355 13
Easton's share of Savings Bank tax and literary fund of 1877, and local school fund,	85 06
Discount to compromise a settlement with Easton,	37 50
	<hr/>
	\$4,168 53

## SCHOOL TAX.

School order, Center district,	\$155 37
"    " district No. 1,	142 76
"    " district No. 2,	139 18
"    " district No. 3,	176 07

School Order, district No. 4,	\$53 50
"    " district No. 5,	35 03
"    " district No. 9,	32 00
Lisbon village,	20 00
	—————
	\$754 81

## COUNTY PAUPERS.

Caleb Burbank,	\$78 00
Geo. O. Eastman,	41 46
Benj. Judd, Jr.,	8 15
	—————
	\$127 61

## TOWN PAUPERS.

Walter L. Howland's family,	\$90 94
William Howland, bill for 1876,	4 37
William Howland,	130 47
	—————
	\$225 78

## COUNTY ROAD.

D. S. Whitcher, execution,	\$86 52
Witnesses and depositions at Bath,	17 71
Witnesses, board and expense at Benton,	6 21
Work,	42 40
	—————
	\$152 84

## SCHOOL-HOUSE TAXES.

District No. 1,	\$57 04
In Collector's hands,	17—\$57 21
District No. 2, Joel Jesseman, land award,	30 00
"    " M. G. Clark, grading,	38 50
"    " Stevens, Haskins and Hadley,	484 50
"    " abatement,	75
Percentage for collecting,	6 16
Moses Whitcher, 1st Selectman,	17 20
John B. Noyes, 2d Selectman,	6 00
Caleb C. Temple, 3d Selectman,	5 25
Mary E. Noyes, Superintendent School Committee,	2 00
Order for balance,	25 59—\$615 95
District No. 4,	20 00—\$20 00

## SERVICES OF TOWN OFFICERS.

Moſes Whitcher, 1ſt Selectman,	\$55 75
John B. Noyes, 2d Selectman,	27 75
Caleb C. Temple, 3d Selectman,	16 50
Moſes Whitcher, Overseer of Poor,	6 25
J. B. Noyes, Overseer of Poor for Wm. Howland,	5 00
Mary E. Noyes, Superintendent School Committee,	26 00
H. H. Noyes, Town Clerk,	15 90
S. A. Eaton, Treasurer,	20 00
S. Brownſon, Collector,	50 18
Auditors,	6 00
	_____
	\$229 33

## MISCELLANEOUS EXPENDITURES.

Support of roads and bridges,	\$220 37
Bounty on foxes and hawks,	13 30
M. M. Stevens, referee on Benton line,	12 00
Daniel Patterson, referee on Benton line,	11 81
Bingham & Mitchell, Robins case,	16 00
S. Brownſon, non-resident highway tax worked out,	3 62
J. C. Atwood, overtax,	21
Edſon C. Eastman, stationery,	6 36
Geo. C. Forbes, printing brief in Bowles case,	57 00
S. Brownſon, abatements,	9 77
C. H. Boynton, return of births and deaths,	1 50
O. H. Boynton, return of births and deaths,	50
Moſes Whitcher, stationery, express, etc.,	6 10
A. P. Carpenter, services in full, except Bowles case,	99 50
B. W. Sanborn, General Laws,	5 00
H. H. Noyes, repairing Clerk's desk,	2 00
A. Young, watering place,	3 00
C. E. Clark, watering place,	3 00
F. P. Noyes and Philena Sargent, watering places,	3 00
	_____
	\$474 04
In hands of Collector,	\$763 86
In hands of Treasurer,	194 04
	_____
	\$957 90

## INVESTMENT OF LOCAL SCHOOL FUND.

Erroll note of \$650, less interest to December 30, 1878, \$20 91,	\$629 09
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Dalton note of \$250, less interest to December 1, 1878, \$5 66,	\$244 34
	_____
	\$873 43

Total, \$8,657 43

INDEBTEDNESS MARCH 1, 1879.

Town bonds,	\$11,088 24
Interest since August 1, 1878,	388 09
	_____
	\$11,476 33

AVAILABLE ASSETTS.

Due from Easton for support of Wm. How- land,	\$38 59
Wm. L. Shattuck, note and interest,	144 27
Interest on Erroll note after December 30, 1878,	6 50
Interest on Dalton note after December 1, 1878,	3 55
A. Cooley, Collector for 1874-5,	81 65
George W. Cogswell, Collector for 1876,	21 70
In Collector's hands,	763 86
In Treasurer's hands,	194 04
	_____
	\$1,254 16

Indebtedness less available assets, \$10,222 17

UNAVAILABLE ASSETTS.

Town of Errol note, }	Local { \$650 00
Town of Dalton note, }	School Fund, { 250 00
	_____
	\$900 00

MOSES WHITCHER, first Selectman.

March 16.	To 1-2 day making and posting check lists,	\$ 75
27.	correcting check list,	75
April 4.	3 1-2 days taking invoice,	5 25
8.	1 day copying invoice,	1 50
13.	3 days making taxes,	4 50
20.	1-2 day to Carpenter's office about road,	75
25.	copying Collector's warrant and high way bills,	2 00

May	8.	1 day distributing highway bills,	\$1 50	
	15.	recording invoice and taxes,	3 00	
	18.	1 day to settle with Easton Selectmen,	1 50	
	25.	1 day to Easton to finish settlement,	1 50	
June	3.	1 day summoning witnesses on road case,	1 50	
	10.	1 day at Bath taking depositions,	1.50	
	11.	1 day to examine South Landaff and Bungay road,	1 50	
	12.	1-2 day notifying help to work,	.75	
	26.	1 day at Bath taking depositions,	1 50	
July	20.	1-2 day preparing inventory in District No. 2,	.75	
		1 1-2 days making and copying school house taxes,	2 25	
Aug.	22.	1 day making and posting warrants for town meeting,	1 50	
Sept.	18.	3 days about County road,	4 50	
	20.	2 days at road hearing,	3 00	
	25.	making return of invoice to County Com.,	2 00	
	28.	1-2 day to Carpenter's office,	.75	
Oct.	19.	warning town meeting and making check list,	2 00	
	22.	1-2 day to Easton to post warrant,	.75	
Nov.	2.	1-2 day regulating check list,	.75	
	11.	1 day to Littleton to settle claims,	1 50	
Dec.	3.	1 day dividing school money and revising Juror box,	1 50	
	30.	1-2 day to see about County road,	1 00	
<u>1879.</u>				
Feb.	22.	1 day warning town meeting and settling claims,	1 50	
	28.	1-2 day to settle with Carpenter,	.75	
March	1.	1 day settling claims with Auditors,	1 50	
		Total, <i>30 1/2</i>		\$55 75

JOHN B. NOYES, second Selectman.

March	16.	To 1-2 day making and posting check list,	\$ 75	
	27.	1-2 day correcting check list,	.75	
April	4.	3 1-2 days taking invoice,	5 25	
	13.	3 days making taxes,	4 50	
May	18.	1 day to settle with Easton Selectmen,	1 50	
	25.	1 day to finish settlement,	1 50	

June	10.	To 1 day at Bath taking depositions,	\$1 50
	12.	1 day to Dalton on town business,	1 50
July	30.	1-2 day making school house tax,	75
Sept.	19.	1 day on County road hearing,	1 50
	20.	1 day on County road hearing,	1 50
Nov.	2.	1-2 day regulating check list,	75
Dec.	3.	1 day to divide school money and revise Juror box,	1 50
	12.	to Bungay to see about repairing road,	1 50
1879.			
Feb.	22.	To 1 day settling claims,	1 50
March	1.	settling with Auditors,	1 50
		Total, <i>16 75</i>	<hr/> \$27 75

## CALEB C. TEMPLE, third Selectman.

1878.			
April	4.	To 4 days taking inventory,	\$6 00
	13.	3 days making taxes,	4 50
May	18.	1 day settling with Selectmen of East- on,	1 50
July	30.	1-2 day making school house tax in Dis- trict No. 2,	75
Nov.	2.	1-2 day revising check list,	75
Dec.	3.	1 day revising Juror box, etc.,	1 50
1879.			
Feb.	22.	To 1 day settling demands against town,	1 50
March	1.	1 day settling with Auditors,	
		Total, <i>16 75</i>	<hr/> \$16 50

## H. H. NOYES, Town Clerk.

To recording 53 1-2 pages,	\$9 13
recording enrollment, 2 1-2 pages,	46
copy of enrollment to Adjutant General,	46
copy of births, deaths, and marriages to Secretary of State,	3 00
posting tramp law,	75
drawing and notifying Jurors September Court,	75
drawing and notifying Jurors March Court,	75
postage, etc.,	60
Total,	<hr/> \$15 90

Since our last report our Selectmen have effected a settlement with the town of Easton, which we think ought to be satisfactory to both parties. The result has not very materially altered our statements of the town affairs last year. We think that from the figures given above, the condition of the town finances can be readily ascertained at any time. Great credit is due the Treasurer and Selectmen for the careful manner in which the accounts have been kept, and vouchers preserved, and these have, without exception, been exhibited to us, to substantiate the credits claimed.

J. E. HALL,  
HIRAM CLARK, } Auditors.

REPORT  
—OR—  
Superintendent of School Committee,  
FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1879.

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At the last town meeting a vote was taken to have the report of the School Committee printed, and we trust the change will be beneficial. It certainly shows a desire on the part of the male population to extend the knowledge of school matters as much as possible and affords a sure way of carrying them home to enlighten the *ignorant* woman. With each annual revolution of our planet new lights are continually dawning upon us.

The lamp of education has been steadily burning through these many years, until within a twelvemonth it has succeeded in flooding our country with its rays, and the truth lies clearly revealed, that the reasoning man must have the co-operation of intuitive woman to stamp lasting success on education. Since this right, which has been so long withheld, comes at last, let every female prove a true woman, look into the interests of schools, study its deficiencies, and be prepared at the next school meeting to cast a vote that shall cause a revolution in school matters. No woman, who has thoroughly considered this subject can say, "Such a step is unwomanly."

In the science of teaching it has been proved, without a doubt, that woman is equal to man. She can do and does do the same work, both in quantity and quality. Is this unwomanly, or would the Great Giver of talents prefer those implanted in the female mind to lie dormant?

Physiologists teach that the body, with its various members, was given for use, and even the ornamental parts, as the hair, eyebrows, and nails are not without their uses. So, while we would not make of the woman a bold partisan, neither would we have her husband the talents so generously bestowed as so many ornaments, but as gifts whose real worth consists in that homely, but practical little word, *use*. Therefore, the sum and substance of my remarks I would have understood thus: There

is a work to be done in this matter of education which woman only can understand; let *her* be the one to do it; go with the husband, lend your personal aid in the school meeting.

Woman can at least turn the grindstone for sharpening the shears that shall trim this lamp of education, and we will hope to do more than this. Bear in mind the old maxim of Miles Standish, "Would you have anything well done, do it yourself."

There are seven school districts proper, in the town of Landaff. Schools have been carried on during the year for the usual number of weeks in every district except one, which has had no school.

### DISTRICT NO. I (Scotland).

The summer term of 10 weeks was taught by Miss Carrie A. Hall. Whole number of scholars, 16\*; average attendance, 15. Wages of teacher not reported.

The winter term of 12 weeks was also taught by Miss Hall. Whole number of pupils, 15; average attendance, 14. Wages of teacher per month, \$24.

Miss Hall is too well known as a teacher in that district to make it necessary for me to pass my judgment on her qualifications. It is enough to say, "We hope to see her here again." The summer term was not perhaps quite so satisfactory as the winter term. The younger portion of the school passed a much better examination, generally speaking, than the older members. The class in Primary Arithmetic deserve special notice.

### DISTRICT NO. II (Ireland).

The summer term was taught by Miss Lizzie R. Judd; length of school, 8 weeks; whole number of scholars, 11. Wages per month, \$8.00.

This was Miss Judd's first term, but entered upon with a determination to do her best. The school being short, of course that advancement was not made which a longer term would have insured. The school, though small, suffered from a multiplicity of classes; *e. g.*, seven pupils studied geography—text-books and abilities differing, the result was six classes in this one branch. This difficulty, however, is satisfactorily settled by the introduction of Harper's series.

The winter term was under the instruction of Miss Flora S. Farnum; length of school, 10 weeks; whole number of pupils, 27; average attendance, 25. Wages \$20.00 per month.

I visited this school at its opening, and found everything to

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\* Fractions omitted.

be in good working order. Favorable reports reached me from time to time which showed the district to be satisfied. On account of sickness Miss Farnum was called home, thereby closing the school prematurely. Although not being able to examine the school at its close, Miss Farnum's reputation in this town as a teacher is such that it is safe to assert there was good work done. The only thing to criticize was the School Register, which was very incomplete.

It is but proper to notice the fall session held in this district, composed mostly of adults. Number of members varied, though average attendance was good. This term was under the supervision of various parties, and though the old saying is "Too many cooks spoil the broth," the result was in this case a marked exception. Rhetoricals were strictly attended to, debates perhaps taking the precedence. What was most encouraging, everybody seemed alive to the importance of the subject before him.

### DISTRICT NO. III (Blue School-house).

Summer term of 12 weeks was taught by Miss Arzella E. Austin. Whole number of scholars, 25; average attendance, 22. Wages per month, \$20.00.

Miss Austin is one of our practical Normal School teachers, whom the Normal drill has not spoiled; but hints received there, compounded with that indispensable article common sense, insures her success everywhere.

The winter term was under the instructions of Mr. Hiram Clark; length of school, 13 weeks; whole number of pupils, 26; average attendance, 23. Wages per week, \$5.75.

Mr. Clark has already established his reputation in this town as an instructor of youth. But I wish to say, "The classes in grammar and Harper's Introductory Geography did unusually well."

### DISTRICT NO. IV.

The summer term in this district was taught by Miss Edith N. Bartlett; length of school, 11 weeks; whole number of scholars, 13; average attendance, 12. Wages per month, \$9.00.

Miss Bartlett is one of the few natural teachers that it has been our good fortune to possess during this school year. Though young in experience she seemed perfectly at home in the school room, and showed a real love for the work. The first examination was full of life, as no sleepy pupils were to be found. The rhetorical exercises at the close of school were very interesting, especially the song given by Mary Aldrich.

Miss Myra H. Child had charge of the winter school; length of school, 11 weeks; whole number of pupils, 14; average attendance, 11. Wages per month, \$14.00.

Miss Child labored under one great disadvantage, that of being obliged to "board round." At my last visit I found her unfit for school work from a severe cold, the result of boarding in six different places in fourteen days. When will this fashion go out of date. From experience I know that a teacher whose nerves have been sawed all day long, would rather be excused from being received at her boarding-place "as one of the family," and inwardly longs for a loophole of retreat—one constant place she can call her own.

#### DISTRICT NO. V (Foster Hill).

There has been but one term of school in this part of the town during the year, a spring term, taught by Miss Arzella E. Austin; length of school, 9 weeks; whole number of pupils, 9; average attendance, 7. Wages per month, \$12.00.

The pupils, though young, made great improvement, and the oral classes in geography and arithmetic were most praiseworthy. Miss Austin is a teacher who is not afraid to conduct a recitation without text-book questions. Originality in securing the attention of young children is one of her strong points. Composition was taken up to a considerable extent among the girls eight and nine years of age. They showed remarkable mental ability. It seems a great mistake somewhere that no more school-money can be secured for *this* district, while others have enough and to spare.

#### CENTRE DISTRICT.

The summer term of 8 weeks was taught by Miss Ida J. Noyes; length of school 8 weeks; whole number of scholars, 23; average attendance, 16. Wages per month, \$16.00.

This was Miss Noyes first effort at school work, and as is too often the case in first terms, many disadvantages barred the way to success. The teacher evidently was more conscientious than the District, and had she been met half way the term would have been more profitable.

The winter school of this District was under the charge of Mr. John E. Hall. Length of school, 17 weeks; whole number of scholars, 26; average attendance, 22. Wages, \$25.00 per month.

As a family man, Mr. Hall holds an enviable reputation on government, and this same quiet, dignified demeanor marked his career in the schoolroom. To quote an old teacher, who

visited the school, would be to say, "It is a model school on order."

The children manifested interest in their work, and showed thorough drill. The young ladies in Physiology and the first arithmetic class did themselves much credit.

It is with much pleasure I find myself able to send this report to the parents, without being obliged to mention any serious cases of insubordination. In several instances teachers have taken pains to say, "I find these children disposed to be obedient and industrious." Such a statement ought to be cheering to the parents of these boys and girls. It is easy to prophecy what the life of the grown up boy and girl will be who earns this reputation now.

#### THE NEW SCHOOL HOUSE

in District No. 2 has at last made its appearance. This now makes us comfortably well off in the way of school buildings throughout the town. More attention should be given to this matter of

#### VENTILATION.

There is but one school house in town properly ventilated. No one would wish his children to be given an unwashed dish to eat from, and yet this same parent sends the children to school day after day to feed on air which has been breathed and re-breathed until it is a vital poison.

#### THE BLACKBOARDS

in most of the schools are in a miserable condition, and nowhere is there enough blackboard room. A successful teacher necessarily uses much crayon, and needs a large amount of blackboard surface. Let it be borne in mind that five per cent. of school funds can be used for repairs. So do not fail to attend to this matter.

#### CLEANLINESS

is a habit that should be strictly enforced in the school-room. I have been greatly annoyed in some of our schools by the air of untidiness—paper, sticks, apple cores, etc., on the floor, stove-hearths unbrushed, and things in general at loose ends. The teacher must impress upon the youthful mind this great fact, "Cleanliness is next to Godliness."

The subject of text-books is already a hackneyed theme, but from its great importance we must glance for a moment at the

## OLD BOOKS.

This hindrance to the success of our schools is being done away with in part, but there are a few old stand-bys yet that ought to be denied so important a place as school. I will mention particularly the Progressive Spelling Book, and suggest that our next Committee make an effort to root it out.

## ACCORDING TO REGISTERS,

not one Prudential Committee has visited his schools during the past year. Is it a part of his business to see personally how the schools are working?

Would this same committee engage a hand for his farm and allow him to till it as he chose, then accept his crops at the end of the year, without having made as much as one suggestion during that time?

## TEACHERS

are too often engaged without regard to proper qualifications. A person may be related to the committee, and yet not be a suitable person to teach school. Another may offer his services cheap, but of all such *beware*. Still a third may have an abundance of book knowledge, and yet make a total failure of teaching, as he fails to study human nature.

The number of persons who profess to be teachers is to-day very large. Let this number be divided into two classes, and we have the made teacher and the natural one. The former, and I am obliged to admit the greater per cent. is woman, wishes to get a little money, so drugs the market with her fruitless efforts to teach a good school.

The latter teachers were born for the school-room, recognize their gift, and make a study of the school because they love it. A natural teacher is cheap at any price. I wish to take this opportunity to suggest to teachers the great necessity of preparing the lesson for each recitation. A noted Professor was wont to say, "It matters not how familiar the lesson is to me, I look it through, for I prefer my pupils should drink from a running brook, rather than a stagnant pool."

## REGISTERS

have been returned this year in a very incomplete state. The attention of each prudential committee is called to the General Statutes, chap. 81, sections 6 and 15.

The latter section has been violated several times this year, and teachers have been paid for their services before registers were returned to the Superintendent of School Committee.

## ABSENCE.

The winter terms have been very much broken by sickness, though from the summer reports it is evident that our pupils have a desire to be prompt in attendance and punctuality.

## ROLL OF HONOR

includes those pupils who have been present every half day of a term without being tardy. It is with pleasure I can give the following list :

## NEITHER ABSENT NOR TARDY DURING PAST YEAR:

Fred E. Noyes,	Etta C. Bartlett,
Harlie F. Bronson,	Abbie J. Eastman,
Adam Wright,	Clara E. Bean.

## NEITHER ABSENT NOR TARDY FOR ONE TERM:

Maurice Bronson,	Jennie Whitcher,
Frank S. Edwards,	Bertha K. Cogswell,
Horace Wright,	Mary O. Wright,
Mabel M. Bronson,	Clara M. Rich,
Clinton R. Ward,	Elsie J. Harris,
Chandler E. Burbank,	Louisa R. McKean,
Amos P. Huntoon,	Alice M. McKean,
Charlie C. Whitcher,	Blanche E. Webster,
Fannie S. Gordon,	Henry A. Noyes,
Lizzie M. Bartlett,	Mary B. Bartlett,
Etta F. Flanders,	Perry A. Flanders,
Irving W. Thayer,	Earnest Thayer,
Charlie E. Noyes,	Frank E. Noyes,
Ned Noyes,	Kate McConnell.

Whole number of pupils in town, 101; whole number between 5 and 15 not attending any school, 6. Nearly all attended to reading, spelling and arithmetic. Writing has been neglected; it may almost be reckoned among the lost arts. About two-thirds of the pupils have attended to geography; grammar, 25; physiology, 3; algebra, 4; book-keeping, 1; philosophy, 2; U. S. History, 6; Child's Book of Nature, 5.

I wish to urge once more the importance of *every legal voter* being present at our next school meeting, and lend a helping hand to provide better advantages for our boys and girls.

MARY ELLA NOYES,  
Superintendent of School Committee.



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